Dear Sir/Madam,

I make this submission in objection to the Hills of Gold Wind Farm and I am happy to have my name used for the purposes of publication.

I object to the Hills of Gold Wind Farm based on the primary premise that this project is simply in the Wrong Place, it is of the Wrong Size and has little Social Licence.

Tamworth Regional Council has clearly stated in letter of objection to the Department that the road and traffic report submitted by the developer is inadequate and incomplete. On this premise I believe that the project has not considered the impacts to the existing town and businesses of Nundle.

The biodiversity impacts of this project are too high. The irreversible impacts on local heritage and critical endangered and threatened flora and fauna will be catastrophic. A renewable project that impacts at the expense of the environment cannot be condoned by a developer's push for profit and a government's push to achieve nett zero. The location of the project in pristine wilderness surrounded by prime agricultural land simply highlights that this project is in the wrong place. The risks of erosion and soil run off are too great for a planning department to approve this project if following good planning principles.

The fact that the developer has placed turbines well within a 2500m offset from affected neighbours without agreement, highlights an arrogance by the developer, placing profit before people and place.

This project has been in the planning system for 6 years now which highlights a poorly planned project with little social licence. It should never have got to EIS stage. It has done little but cost the developers, the planning department but most importantly the community. It should be thrown out now, so as not to subject the community to an even higher cost of community resilience. It will also free up the planning department to consider good projects of the right size in the right location with community support and promoted by a well-established developer that cares for people and the environment following good planning principles.

I ask that the Commission in making its final decision, takes into consideration all of the issues and impacts that have been raised that far outweigh any perceived benefit from this proposed project.

Damien Timbs Walcha